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Freak snowstorm hits northeast US



A snow covered Halloween decoration is seen in the town of Westminster, Maryland. (AFP Photo)

Rare October snows transformed the northeastern United States yesterday into a Halloween winter wonderland, but millions were left without power and three deaths were blamed on the storm.

The unseasonable snowfall disrupted air, rail and road traffic from Washington to Boston and the National Weather Service warned of "extremely hazardous" conditions as states of emergency were declared across the region.

Three deaths were re-

ported: a man was killed when he touched an electrified guardrail in Massachusetts; a motorist crashed fatally on icy roads in Connecticut, and a Pennsylvania man was killed when a tree fell on his home.

As dawn broke with Americans gearing up for Monday's Halloween celebrations, the extent of the snowfall was revealed -- up to a stunning 31 inches (78 centimeters) in the New Hampshire town of Jaffrey.

Continued on page 6

Aruba Green Energy Conference 2011 closes with address from HRH Prince of Orange

Prime Minister Mike Eman was proud to introduce HRH Prince of Orange as the final speaker for the closing of the Aruba Green Energy Conference 2011 on Saturday afternoon, October 29. While his mother, HRM Queen Beatrix and his wife, HRH Princess Maxima of the Netherlands were visiting the headquarters of the Fundacion pa Muhe den Dificutad, he shared his thoughts on global warming, climate change, and Aruba's strides to lead the region in coping with these major issues. The conference was conducted at the

This program focuses on 3 important areas: Integrated Area Development, Space and Climate and European Space.

"It is wonderful to see how a small country can sometimes be great," His Royal Highness began, "to realize that no dream is unattainable, if you really believe in it...it is only recently that



HRH Prince of Orange



HRH admires the Forze Hydrogen Car

Renaissance Convention Center from Thursday through Saturday, October 27-29, welcoming a host of experts peakers from around the globe in the field of Renewable Energy, specializing in anything from technology to political and social impact.

Since 1997 The Prince has been closely involved with Water Management, which is a Dutch area of expertise, collaborating with other nations in UN actions and committees regarding this. He chairs the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and has been actively involved in the Spatial Planning Program of The Netherlands since 2004.

the Aruban government decided to go all out to become a leading regional player in free, sustainable energy."

He mentioned the ambi-

tious energy policy put forward at the first Green Energy Conference one year ago by PM Eman and Minister of Finance, Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, Mike de Meza, and, most importantly, it was well attended by official and important business people from all over the Caribbean. They "were inspired by your enthusiasm, vision and leadership. In short, Aruba made a fine start in the policy area, for there are few issues that combine so many topical developments as the question of how we will obtain our energy in say...2050."

Continued on page 2

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Aruba Green Energy Conference 2011 closes . . .

Continued from page 1



A packed house

His Royal highness reflected on the volatile nature and future of fossil fuels, not only in regards to reserves and market fluctuations by speculators, but also the necessity of reversing climate change from their carbon emissions. "Smart heads consider it best to diversify sources and suppliers, and producing your own energy for your entity can also be a good investment in civility."

He then recounted the many symptoms which support what climate scientists are warning; storms of unprecedented severity, melting glaciers and polar ice caps, floods as well as droughts, rising sea levels and the subsequent threat to bio-diver-

sity. "Climate Change is a fact. The exact extent to which we humans are responsible, does not change our duty to minimize its impact. There is a great deal of debate about the causes ... and feasibility of various measures - and that is a good thing. The effects of climate change confront us with economic and social necessity that is inescapable."

The Prince expressed his concerns regarding water, food and energy, and the long term ramifications of the continuing loss of these resources. He discussed the various important uses of water, not only its necessity for human survival, but as a source of energy. He mentioned that the

world receives enough sunlight every hour to power their needs for an entire year; technology is moving so fast solar energy is becoming cheaper and cheaper and so more important to the energy needs of all nations. A current project is aimed at deploying areas of the Sahara to provide energy for the entire Western European market. "Instead of seeing deserts, which are abundantly available all over our planet, as arid wastelands, we should cherish them as future harvesters of sustainable energy."

Wind, too, will become a principal source of sustainable energy. "Picture a future in which wind farms in the North Sea with a capacity of around 10,000 MGW supply electricity to Britain, Denmark, Norway, Germany and The Netherlands by 2050."

Following HRH's Keynote Address, the Aruba Green Energy Conference 2011 - "The Green Gateway" - came to a close with the historic signing of the agreement between the Aruban Government and TNO (Netherlands Organization Applied Scientific Research), for the establishment of the Caribbean Sustainable Research Institute (CSRI) with TNO CEO Jan Mengel-



Signing the TNO agreement

ers. A detailed list of speakers and their presentations will be posted to the conference's

website: www.greenaruba.org.

by Rosalie Klein

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Cain still Republican field's improbable challenger

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Retired pizza executive Herman Cain continued to defy the odds yesterday, beating out his fellow Republican contenders in yet another presidential poll -- this one from Iowa, the lead-off state for next year's election balloting.

Cain nipped former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney 23 percent to 22 percent in the race for the Republican nomination, according to a Des Moines Register poll of voters planning to take part in the 2012 Iowa Caucus.

The former CEO of Godfather Pizza has surged 13 percentage points since a poll by the newspaper conducted in late June, despite spending little time in the state and taking just fifth place in an August 13 Iowa straw poll vote.

Pundits give Cain little chance of winning the Republican presidential nomination, especially after seeing a parade of Republicans claim the frontrunner mantle only to see their fortunes fade.

And they point out that were Cain to win the nomination, he would be the first candidate in modern presidential history to do so without having first held elective office.

Still, the plain-speaking African American businessman and minister has been a phenomenon on the campaign trail, livening up an otherwise lackluster Republican race, and spawning copy cat tax reform proposals modeled after his catchy but controversial "9-9-9" plan.

Many experts say Cain's popularity in Iowa, as well as

in other recent national polls that also showed him to have taken the lead, is a product of voter dissatisfaction with Romney.

Romney, like Cain a successful businessman before entering politics, has been tipped by many experts to be the eventual Republican nominee, but so far he has failed to excite conservative voters and has been criticized for his apparent readiness to tailor his views when it is politically expedient.

"What I find interesting is that Mitt Romney continues to have 75 percent, 80 percent of his party looking somewhere else," said David Plouffe, President Barack Obama top re-election campaign strategist yesterday.

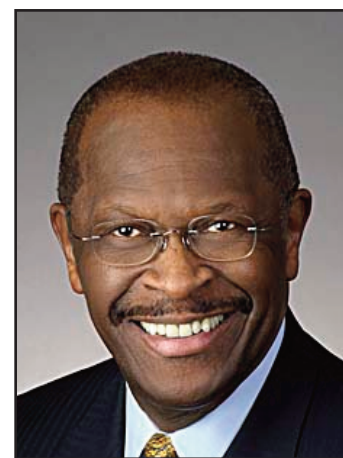
"I make two points about

him. One is, he has no core," Plouffe told the NBC television program "Meet the Press," rattling off a long list of issues where Romney has changed his stated views from abortion to climate change.

"You get the sense with Mitt Romney that, you know, if he thought it was good to say the sky was green and the grass was blue, to win an election, he'd say it."

Observers meanwhile question whether Cain could suffer the same fate as Texas Governor Rick Perry, who soared to the top of polls after entering the race in August, but who since has plummeted like a lead balloon.

Perry in yesterday's poll received just seven percent support, putting him in a tie with former House Speaker Newt



Herman Cain

Gingrich for fifth place.

The telephone survey of 400 Republicans likely to attend next year's Iowa caucus vote was conducted between October 23 to 26, and has a margin of error is plus or minus 4.9 percentage points.



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The Dutch Royal Family bids the Radisson farewell



The Dutch Royal Family visited Aruba this past week,



October 27th to the 29th, staying at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. The distinguished guests including HRM Queen Beatrix, HRH The Prince of

Orange, and his wife HRH Princess Maxima of the Netherlands, enjoyed a busy program here, packed with social and cultural activities showcasing the island's talents and economic progress.



At the end of their stay, as they were leaving to go to the airport the Dutch Royals bid the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa farewell, shaking hands and expressing their appreciation to the executives lined up at the resort lobby entrance.

General Manager Rob Smith who welcomed the queen as she stepped off the

elevator in the lobby flanked by HRH Princess Maxima and HRH Prince of Orange. He received many compliments from Her Majesty Queen Beatrix over her much-enjoyed three-day stay at the resort praising the work of resort executive Fransisca van Esta Tjallingii in coordinating the visit.

The Queen even dined at the Sunset Grille restaurant enjoying new menu items: Grilled Asparagus with poached organic egg and Tuna Tartar, with cornichons, capers, Dijon sauce and cayenne over field greens.

Pictured here, the management team lined up for good-byes and warm handshakes at the lobby entrance. HRM Queen Beatrix was escorted to the De Palm Tours bus by the island's Governor Freddis Refunjol.



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Coach awards winners from their opening night gala



Joanne Armantrading receives her Coach watch

One of the most stylish evenings islanders experienced in the past month was the official opening of Coach in the Renaissance Mall on Friday, October 21. Island glitterati and friends of the Elwani family attended in abundance, enjoying the attractive inventory of the fa-

mous designer accessories and handbags, but also the pleasant surprise of a chance to win a Coach Signature watch.

The franchise also took time on opening night to award a substantial donation to Casa Cuna Progresso, a hospice for children ages 1 to 7 from troubled homes; the

awarding of the watches to lucky winners was done in subdued and tasteful Coach style.

Lucky winners were Coach fanatic Joanne Armantrading, who showed up to receive her coveted gift wea-

that his wife had dragged him to the opening, but he was so impressed with the quality of the Coach leatherwear, he ended up purchasing from the men's collection, and expects he will visit the store often.

Coach staffers very much enjoyed the opportunity to see the winners' smiles when they realized what a beautiful

gift they had won during the impromptu prize-giving ceremony, just a few days after the official opening night event.

by Rosalie Klein



Shanon Croes receives the men's Coach watch

ring Coach shoes, "the most comfortable and long-lasting I have ever purchased."

The male recipient of the unisex watch was Shanon Croes, who commented

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Freak snowstorm hits northeast US

In New York's Central Park, where experts said there hadn't been an inch of snow on an October day since records began in 1869, there was an unprecedented 2.9 inches.

From Washington in the south to the towns of northern Massachusetts, there were strangely wintry scenes for an American Halloween.

Ghosts and ghouls on front lawns and porches were shrouded in snow. Families stocking up on candy, prepared for some particularly chilly trick-or-treating with shovels and salt at the ready.

There was misery for some as energy companies reported up to three million homes without power. Worst hit were Massachusetts (660,000 customers), Connecticut (740,000), and New Jersey (500,000).

Connecticut Light & Power described the damage as "unprecedented" and warned residents to prepare for a worst-case scenario of a week or more without power.

Air travelers who had seen an average delay of six hours on Saturday were faring better as major airports in New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts reported flight schedules returning to normal.

Rail travel had also been hit, with multiple Amtrak services remaining canceled along the busy northeast cor-

ridors due to signal problems caused by the storm.

An average of a foot (30 centimeters) of snow fell in parts of Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New Jersey.

Unseasonably cold air was pouring into the northeast, and deep tropical moisture was set to surge northward along the east coast and "fuel an expanding area of heavy rain and snow," the National Weather Service said.

Much of the region was hit by Hurricane Irene in August. Its heavy rains and wind killed more than 40 people, left millions without power, destroyed homes and caused record flooding.

The unseasonably cold and wet weather did not dampen the spirits of anti-Wall Street protesters camped out in New York and Washington.

"Snow, what snow? I've got a country to worry about," read a sign held by a woman at New York's Zuccotti Park -- the nerve center of the Occupy Wall Street movement.

At the White House, President Barack Obama and wife Michelle did not let the weather ruin their annual Halloween trick-or-treating event, handing out candy, cookies and dried fruit to children wrapped up in thick coats.

..

Turkish quake victims shiver as mercury dips

ISTANBUL (AFP) - Bulldozers replaced sniffer dogs yesterday as search efforts wound down in quake-hit eastern Turkey and the death toll rose to over 600.

With temperatures dipping to below freezing the biggest problem now facing survivors in Van province was a lack of tents and heaters, media reports said.

Health officials in Ercis, which bore the brunt of the 7.2-magnitude quake, warned survivors against drinking tap water due to fears the supply had been contaminated with sewage, the Anatolia news agency reported.

Many survivors were still

camped out in tents or makeshift shelters, fearing further building collapses with rain and snow adding to their misery.

Some whose homes were damaged had tried to find new accommodation only to discover that unscrupulous landlords had hiked rents.

"People whose houses collapsed started to search for new houses but there has been a big increase in prices... this is not ethical," Salih Ozbek, the head of Van Real Estate Agencies' Association, told Anatolia.

City Planning Minister Erdogan Bayraktar has said that new housing will be ready in

Van city by September 2012 for people left homeless by the quake.

In the meantime, Turkey plans to provide temporary, pre-fabricated shelter units.

Two Israeli planes, carrying five prefabricated housing units landed in the eastern province of Erzurum early on Sunday, Israeli embassy official Nizar Amer told AFP. Israel earlier sent five others.

Turkey has accepted help from dozens of countries, including Israel and Armenia, both states with which it has frosty relations.

The United States is the latest country to offer help.

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Arabs await Assad reply to plan to end unrest

DOHA (AFP) - The Arab League has proposed a plan of "concrete steps" to end the bloodshed in Syria and expects President Bashar al-Assad to respond today, Qatar's foreign minister said.

An Arab ministerial team "agreed on a serious proposal to stop the killing and all forms of violence in Syria," Sheikh Hamad bin Jasssem Al-Thani told reporters after a meeting in Doha yesterday.

"The Syrian delegation has said they would respond tomorrow," he said.

In response to a warning from Assad that any Western intervention in Syria would inflame the region, Sheikh Hamad said the risk was if Damascus failed to take "concrete steps" to stop the violence.

"The entire region is at risk of a massive storm," he said after more than three hours of talks between a group of Arab foreign ministers and their Syrian counterpart Walid Muallem.

"What is required of Syria ... is concrete steps that could avoid what happened to other countries," Sheikh Hamad said, in apparent reference to the conflict in Libya and NATO's military intervention.

Assad has warned that any Western intervention in Syria would cause an "earthquake" across the Middle East, Britain's Sunday Telegraph newspaper quoted him as telling one of its journalists.

Sheikh Hamad, however, who chaired the Doha meeting but gave no details on the Arab plan, also said that "leaders must know how to behave, not by delaying and deceiving."

The Syrian delegation will stay on in the Qatari capital to deliver Assad's response, he said, adding that the ministerial team would reconvene on Wednesday in Cairo where the Arab League has its headquarters.

Assad warned of "another Afghanistan" if foreign forces intervened in Syria as they had in Libya, the Sunday Telegraph

reported.

Syria is "the fault line, and if you play with the ground you will cause an earthquake - do you want to see another Afghanistan, or tens of Afghanistans?" he asked.

"Any problem in Syria will burn the whole region. If the plan is to divide Syria, that is to divide the whole region."

During talks in Damascus last Wednesday, the Arab ministers warned Assad to stop the bloodshed and start meaningful reforms or face an international intervention, the Kuwaiti daily Al-Qabas reported.

Citing well-informed Arab sources, the paper said the delegation told Assad that failure to resolve the crisis within the Arab fold would mean "internationalising" the unrest.

"This would mean Syria should expect a foreign intervention and a painful international blockade on the economy and other aspects," the daily said.

French police fire tear gas to break up Turk-Kurd clashes

PARIS (AFP) - French police fired tear gas to break up clashes that erupted between Turkish protesters and supporters of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in central Paris yesterday.

Around 150 young Turks waving their national flag and singing patriotic songs gathered on the Place de la Bastille to protest "terrorism in Turkey" after an attack by PKK rebels that killed 24 earlier this month.

Youths saying they were PKK supporters hurled stones and other objects at the gathering before police fired tear gas to disperse the Kurds.

One of the Turkish protest's organisers, Hakan Fakili, said that 10 people were injured but this was not possible to confirm.

Turkey launched a wide army operation against the

PKK after they carried out a series of attacks that killed 24 soldiers and injured 18 others in Cukurca town of Hakkari province near the Iraqi border on October 18. The latest attack of the PKK caused the biggest loss for the army since 1993, when the PKK rebels killed 33 unarmed soldiers.

Clashes between the PKK and the army have escalated since the summer.

The PKK listed as a terrorist organisation by Turkey and much of the international community took up arms for Kurdish independence in southeastern Turkey in 1984, sparking a conflict that has claimed some 45,000 lives.

Turkey's last ground incursion into northern Iraq, an autonomous Kurdish region, was in February 2008, when the army struck against the Zap region.

Brazil's ex-leader Lula upbeat ahead of chemotherapy

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Brazil's ex-president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is upbeat and trusts the chemotherapy he is about to start for his larynx cancer will be successful, one of his lead doctors told reporters yesterday.

"He is in good spirits and on board, committed, and that is key to the success of any treatment," Dr. Roberto Kalil

Jr. told reporters.

Officials in Brazil announced last week that the 66-year-old Lula was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx following a series of tests. The popular ex-president -- who was Brazil's first democratically elected leftist president -- is to undergo his first chemotherapy session today.

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Memorable opening of First Phase



Arrival of the Royal family at linear Park accompanied by Minister Otmar Oduber



HRM Queen Beatrix with Consul of The Phillippines Amy Henriquez



Leaders of Aruba's Indian Community greets the Royal family, Karina Dariyanani, President of the Indian Association of Aruba Prakash Gupta and spouse Niti Gupta



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of Linear Park with Royal Family



A Royal Visit is a perfect time to unveil a major community project, and the 1st phase of the Linear Park was completed just in time for Arubans to share the event with HRM Queen Beatrix, HRH the Prince of Orange and his wife HRH Princess Maximá. Not only was the Royal Family treated to a warm welcome by thousands of islanders, they were also enlightened as to the multi-cultural nature of the island, with a number of pavilions featuring native crafts and culture of the homelands of some of Aruba's larger expatriate communities.

Music, dance, traditional costumes and handicrafts, and from some, cuisine, of China, The Philippines, India, Portugal, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and of course, Aruba, were sampled and savored by the visiting Royals with Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber as their guide, along with tourists and islanders, during a delightful afternoon on Friday, October 28.

As the Royal Family wended their way down the main boulevard of the Linear Park, they were allotted just over 3 minutes to enjoy spectacular and exotic ritual dances, which were explained to them by representatives of the various national groups.

First to welcome HRM Queen Beatrix was the

Honorary Philippine Consul to Aruba, Ami Mendes-Henriquez; from there they went on to enjoy a Lion Dance at the China Pavilion and the colorful handicrafts and dress of India, where they were greeted by Karina Dariyanani and President of the Indian Association of Aruba, Prakash Gupta, with his wife, Niti.

They were finally welcomed by a line up of imaginative interpretations of Aruba's indigenous cadushi cactus by 24 local artists in an exposition from curator Stan Kuiperi. Here they met the architect of the project, young Aruban, Rafi Kock, who explained the plan to continue the Linear Park along the waterfront to beyond the Marriott Resort.

A jubilant grand finale to the program was a display of some of the most impressive Carnival costumes of recent years, where the Royals proved they were completely immersed in the occasion by joining the dancers and demonstrating they had "some great moves" of their own, according to a witness, including HRM Queen Beatrix! "You could see they were having great fun," reports Stan Kuiperi, "it was delightful to watch. The Queen and Maxima can shake it with the best of them!"

By Rosalie Klein

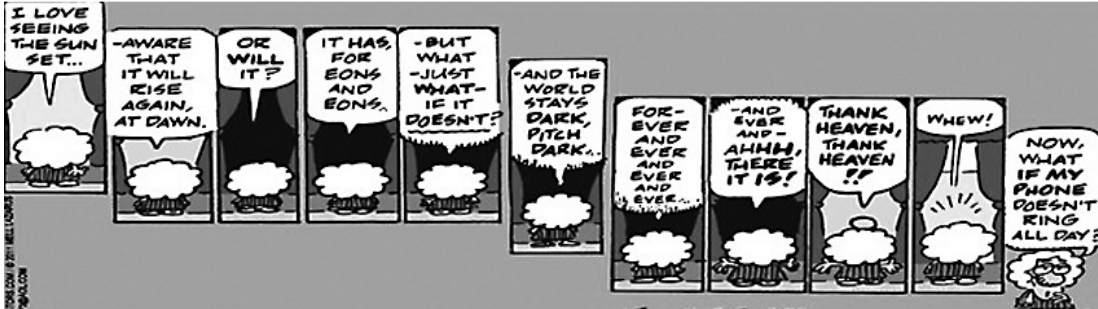


COMICS

PICKLES



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CALVIN and HOBBS



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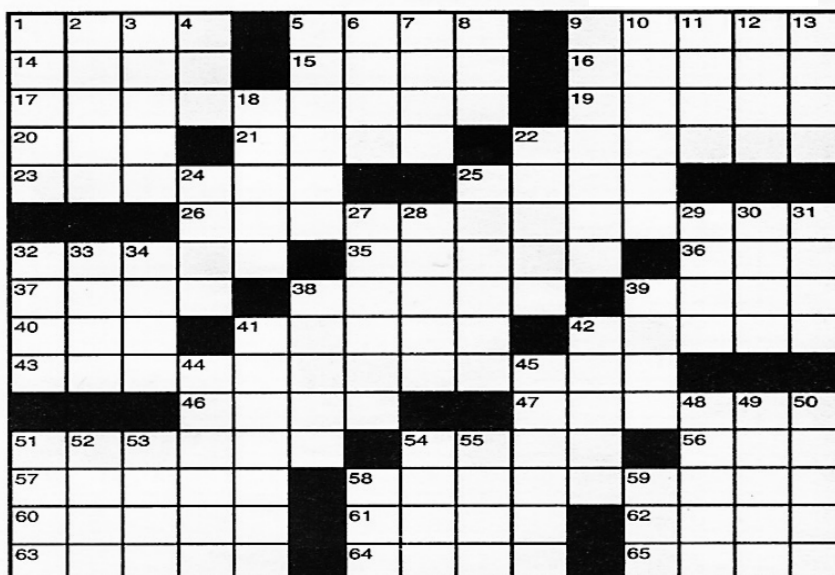
1. Arrogantly confident
5. Franco-German TV network
9. Canvas holder
14. Crumb
15. "Old MacDonald" sounds
16. Helpful
17. Part of a pirate's booty
19. Miss — ("Rear Window" character)
20. Goof
21. Table scraps
22. Frame fillers
23. Nero's tutor
25. Julius Dithers's mate
26. Be punished by Hook
32. Shade of tan
35. Remove a mistake
36. Tibetan gazelle
37. Temple's first husband
38. Faucet problems
39. Glide
40. Dem.'s foe
41. City near Phoenix
42. Cipher
43. Gilligan's home
46. Ration-rationing plan
47. Wankel engine's lack
51. Asian monkey
54. Fish lure
56. Part of history
57. Foreign
58. Corsair
60. Abalone layer

DOWN

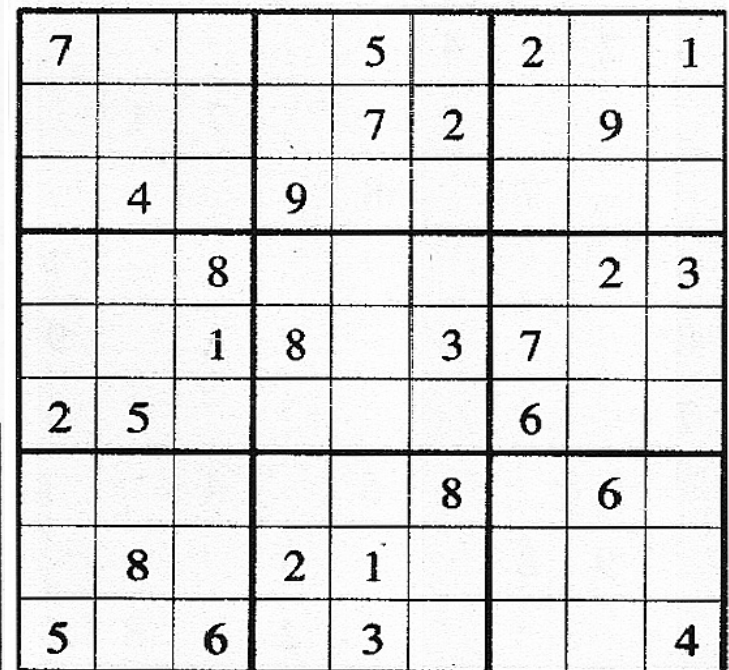
1. They're chosen in kids' games
2. Poet quoted at Christmas-time
3. Driver's 180
4. Chat idly
5. Like Alex in "A Clockwork Orange"
6. Nose through
7. Scads
8. Curvy letter
9. Muse whose symbol was a flute
10. Without a

11. Generic addressees
12. In some other way
13. Some summer babies
18. Endemic
22. Rich soil
24. Pitcher
25. — Hill, North Carolina
27. Jim Henson made him out of an old coat
28. Jaunts
29. Wide-eyed
30. Webster or Wyle
31. Go—
32. Comb wool
33. Met Tommie, or critic James
34. Travel aids

38. Impede
39. Slangy beer
41. The Godhead et al.
42. Maria's confidante
44. Lawn tools
45. Highest points
48. Asian weights
49. Pointed arches
50. Like Ericson
51. Ground
52. Apple preservative
53. Mediterranean resort
54. Nun in the water
55. Farm measurement
58. "Ciao!"
59. Burns's refusal



YO HO HO



Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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China 'not a saviour' for Europe

BEIJING-- China's state media warned yesterday that the country will not be a "saviour" to Europe, as President Hu Jintao left for an official visit to the region including a G20 summit.

Hu's visit has raised hopes that cash-rich China might make a firm commitment to the European bailout fund, but in a commentary, the official Xinhua news agency said Europe must address its own financial woes.

"China can neither take up the role as a saviour to the Europeans, nor provide a 'cure' for the European malaise.

"Obviously, it is up to the European countries themselves to tackle their financial problems," it said, adding that China could only do so "within its capacity to help as a friend."

The Group of 20 major economies will meet in the French city of Cannes on Thursday and Friday, just a week after European Union leaders reached a last-ditch deal to tackle its debt crisis.

Europe is seeking to expand the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) to one trillion euros (\$1.4 trillion), possibly through a special purpose investment vehicle or the International Monetary Fund.

China, holder of the world's largest foreign exchange reserves at \$3.2 trillion, said it wanted more clarity before in-

vesting in the bailout fund after head of the EFSF Klaus Regling, held talks in Beijing to try to win help.

During his visit, Hu will first visit Austria to sign several "framework" agreements, including in the areas of economics and trade, before heading to the G20 meeting, Xinhua said in a separate report.

China's Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai said on Friday that the G20 should focus on the sovereign debt crisis in "developed countries" and the growing pressure of global inflation.

He added that members should make efforts to stabilise financial markets and restore investor confidence.

For its part, G20 partners will also be looking to China to stimulate domestic demand, diversify its export-led economic model and allow the yuan currency to appreciate more freely so as to slim down its massive trade surpluses.

Another Chinese official has played down hopes of a breakthrough at the G20 meeting. Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao, also speaking Friday, said investment in the European bailout fund was not on the agenda.

Beijing fears the financial risk of a major investment, which could also spark a domestic backlash as the Chinese

public asks why they should bail out wealthier nations.

China has been burned before on overseas investment. It bought stakes in investment bank Morgan Stanley and asset management firm Blackstone only to see values collapse in the 2008 global financial crisis.

"China was taken in. Once bitten, twice shy," said independent economist Andy Xie, former chief economist for Morgan Stanley.

Russia's Medvedev sees WTO deal 'this year'

MOSCOW -- Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said yesterday he hoped to see Moscow join the World Trade Organisation by the end of the year after apparent progress in accession talks with last hold-out nation Georgia.

Medvedev met Swiss President Micheline Calmy-Rey -- whose country has mediated talks between Russia and its neighbour -- for previously unannounced talks at his suburban Moscow residence.

The meeting came three days after Georgia accepted a "final proposal" from the mediators that could finally bring a positive end to Russia's 18-year campaign to join the world's premier free trade club.

Euro crisis 'could lead to social unrest'

The eurozone debt crisis could lead to a decade-long recession and rising social unrest, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has warned, according to a German media report yesterday.

"The next few months will be decisive in terms of avoiding a dramatic decline in employment and a further sharp increase in social unrest," news weekly Focus reported, citing the ILO's new annual report on the labour market.

Without counter-measures, the crisis might unleash a recession that could last a decade, as governments find

themselves powerless to act due to pressure to reduce their debts, Focus said, citing the ILO document.

The ILO was not immediately available for comment.

The greatest risk of social unrest exists in Greece, Portugal, Spain, Estonia, France, Slovenia and Ireland, according to the weekly.

The debt crisis has already sparked several incidents of social unrest, with strikes in Greece against austerity measures turning bloody and a violent protest in Rome injuring more than 100 people.

Philippine farmers cash in on civet coffee dung



A Filipino coffee farmer shows civet cat droppings of undigested coffee seeds he collected from the forest floor in Lipa, Batangas. Philippine farmers used to hunt and kill the civets that ate their coffee beans -- until they realised the animals' droppings were worth a small fortune. Now the ravenous nocturnal raider with the pungent faeces has a status akin to the fabled goose that lays the golden eggs among farmers. The small, tree-dwelling palm civet eats the outer fruit of the coffee bean but passes the rest through its stomach. It is there that the enzymes and acids in the civet's hyper-active digestive system remove the normally bitter after-taste of the coffee bean and give it a distinctive fruity aroma. In New York, one coffee shop sells the exotic beans at a staggering \$340 a pound (\$748 a kilogram).



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ANTED RIPEN TAG
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International SITE Conference opens doors of opportunity for Aruba!



On the 13th to the 15th of October, Aruba's Jerusha Rasmijn and Darice Solognier of Aruba Tourism Association's Convention Bureau, were privileged to participate in the International SITE Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

This conference was held

hosted by Aruba was in 2009. According to ATA, the positive secondary effects of SITE 2009 can still be felt in the SITE community as they are still commenting on that experience and on Aruba where it was held two years ago.

During this year's three-day

Divi Resorts and Red Sail Sports along with the delegates of ATA's Aruba Convention Bureau, were in attendance.

The Aruba delegation benefited from the networking opportunities, but particularly from the many educational seminars offered during the conference. These seminars were designed to keep participants abreast of the new trends and newest developments in the industry of the organization of meetings, and incentive travel.

Despite the global economic challenges, this segment of the travel industry has continued to flourish and continues to expand even more. It has seen much growth, particularly in group travel to countries outside of the USA.

According to some experts, they envision substantial growth for this industry in the years ahead. ATA is intent on attracting these groups to Aruba and in creating relationships with professionals in the meeting and incentive industry which they believe can serve as a foundation for future growth for Aruba's tourism.

Accompanying photos show images of the two excellent conferences attended by Aruba. One photo shows Aruba's Jerusha Rasmijn and Darice Solognier standing with SITE 2012 Director for Latin America.




immediately following the new IMEX American Show, which was held that same week.


SITE is a global chain of meeting professionals who organize an event with the objective of presenting the results of their businesses. In this year's conference they welcomed some 477 delegates from 46 different countries. Aruba was the proud host of this prestigious event on two occasions. The most recent conference

event, the Aruba Convention Bureau along with SITE South Florida, had the pleasure of hosting a cocktail reception for a select group of 50 meeting organizers. That reception allowed them an opportunity for better networking with the visitors, and to learn more concerning business opportunities as well as to strengthen existing commercial ties.

Several of Aruba's partners; De Palm Tours, Eco Destination Management Services,



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World of 'contradiction' awaits 7 billionth person

The world's seven billionth person will be born today into what UN leader Ban Ki-moon calls a "world of contradiction" -- and facing an uphill battle if it is on the wrong side of the poverty line.

While many countries around the world will be choosing their own symbolic baby, holding rallies and other events to mark the latest stage of the global population explosion, Ban will not be seen cuddling a newborn.

In Zambia there will be a seven billion song contest, while Vietnam will stage a "7B: Counting On Each Other" concert. Russian authorities

are to give gifts to selected babies while in Ivory Coast national comedians are staging their own show.

According to the UN secretary general, however, the seven billion day is no laughing matter. Ban said he suspects the seven billionth person, wherever he or she is born, "will be born into a world of contradiction."

"Plenty of food, but still a billion people going to bed hungry every night. Many people enjoy luxurious lifestyles, but still many people are impoverished," he said. Today's birth should be seen as a "clarion call to action," he insisted.

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters,

caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee.



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Discover the unique taste of Middle Eastern "fast food" at Yalla Yalla



A charming place to watch the world go by

Middle Eastern cuisine has its devotees, as it is very tasty and exotic, without being too spicy. Yalla Yalla recently opened its doors in the South Beach Center in Palm Beach, and if you have never tried the dishes unique to that region of the world, you are in for a treat.

Yalla Yalla literally means "fast," as these are the sort of dishes those from the region will enjoy when they want to grab a quick meal. The menu is more than reasonably priced, with a generous portion of tender Beef Shish Kabab or Shrimp Kabab, for those with a taste for seafood, costing only \$14.50.

A hefty serving of Lamb Shoarma is only \$12; Chicken Shoarma \$8, and the portions are big enough to share. Classic Middle Eastern side dishes such as Tabouleh and Hummus are served with freshly made pita bread; great for starters or a late night snack.

Yalla Yalla sports a lovely open air terrace, perfect for people watching, and is attached to the South Beach Lounge, where their singular



Beef Shish Kabab

snacks are also served.

In the mood for something a little more gourmet and interesting for dinner that won't ruin your budget? Yalla Yalla has what you are looking for: a true dining adventure in charming surroundings and delicious food that is more than a little different from the staid old menu. Dinner is served from 6:00 PM until 1:00 AM nightly.

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Tsonga wins Vienna title to improve in year-end race



VIENNA (AFP) - Jo-Wilfried Tsonga improved to seventh in the race for the ATP year-end championships with a battling 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 6-4 defeat of Juan Martin Del Potro to win the Austrian Open on Sunday.

The first Frenchman to claim the title started the week knowing that he could only add to his season points total for the World Tour Finals by reaching the title

match.

Despite losing the first set in three of his four matches at the Stadthalle, that's exactly what the ninth-ranked Tsonga accomplished as he capped his effort in a two-and-a-half hours win over 2009 US Open champion Del Potro.

"It's special to win my seventh title here," said Tsonga. "I knew I could only gain points for London if I got to the final. I did it in the end and I'm glad. I'm extremely happy."

"I was tight at the start and down after losing the tiebreaker. But I stayed tough and didn't give away any easy points."

Tsonga and his Argentine opponent now move on to Valencia for next week's ATP event with both still fighting for places in the year-end from November 20.

Del Potro will climb to 11th in the points chase as well as stand 11th in the rankings as he returns this season after missing eight months of 2010 with wrist surgery.

Tsonga trailed a set and a break before making his recovery move.



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Dominant Vettel wins first Indian GP

GREATER NOIDA (AFP) - World champion Sebastian Vettel made history by winning India's first ever Formula One with ease yesterday as McLaren's Jenson Button tightened his grip on the championship's second place.

Red Bull's Vettel led throughout for his 11th victory of the season, finishing some 8.4 seconds ahead of Button with Ferrari's Fernando Alonso third and Australian Mark Webber fourth.

Seven-time champion Michael Schumacher battled to fifth but McLaren's Lewis Hamilton came in seventh after yet another collision with his Ferrari bete noire, Felipe Massa.

But wire-to-wire Vettel was in a class of his own at the all-new Buddh International Circuit near New Delhi as he closed on Michael Schumacher's 2004 record of 13 wins in one year, with two



Red Bull-Renault driver Sebastian Vettel of Germany (R) celebrates after winning the Formula One Indian Grand Prix

aces left this season. "Yes boys! Yes, we did it," Vettel shouted over the team radio as he finished. "The first Indian Grand Prix. Fantastic challenge, we did it!" In dry, 30 Celsius (86


Fahrenheit) heat, India's debut grand prix got off to a furious start when Rubens Barrichello was hit on the first turn and three cars ended up off-track, before Jarno Trulli found himself on grass.

Vettel made no mistake from pole position but Button nipped past Webber and Alonso to go from fourth on the grid to second, cueing up an early dogfight with the Australian Red Bull driver.

The race's build-up has been overshadowed by two deaths in motorsports this month and the controversial spectacle of glamorous Formula One appearing in one of India's poorest regions.

But its private-sector organisers are already celebrating a smooth and successful event which has helped bury memories of last year's Commonwealth Games, which are remembered for their poor organisation and corruption.

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Cassano suffers health scare on return to Milan



ROME (AFP) - Italy forward Antonio Cassano was taken to hospital during the night after feeling ill on his return to Milan following his team's 3-2 victory at Roma on Saturday evening.

Cassano was taken in for

checks, according to a statement by AC Milan and was still there on Sunday night.

He apparently suffered difficulty speaking and moving and has been transferred to the neurological department of the hospital where he will undergo tests on his heart and brain.

Cassano had wanted to return home when arriving back in Milan but was convinced to go to hospital by the team doctor Rodolfo Tavana.

"The boy is not well and we're looking into it," said Tavana. "He won't be traveling to Minsk and will be out of action for several days."

Milan are due to play BATE Borisov in the Champions League on Tuesday and were due to leave for Minsk on Monday.

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Federer hopes to get back on track in Basel

(AFP) -- Tennis hero Roger Federer will hope to steam through the field at his home Swiss Indoors starting on

today after having a railway locomotive named in his honour.

Federer was honoured with his bigger-than-life-sized likeness on the loco, which will enter regular passenger service, with one of his sponsors donating to the player's charity based upon the number of kilometres the engine travels in service.

The 16-time grand slam champion, who has lifted the title at the St Jakobshalle four times in the last five editions, will play in Monday night's event curtain-raiser against Italian Potito Starace in the first round.

For an ATP 500 series, the Basel field boasts an all-star cast, with world number one Novak Djokovic returning to action after five weeks away with a back problem. The Serb won the Swiss title in 2009 as he beat Federer in the final with the Swiss reversing that outcome a year ago for the trophy.

Also playing on late wild card entry is world number three Andy Murray, who is planning to see if his red-hot form from three titles in Asia this month can translate to

European success indoors.

The Scot takes the second seeding behind Djokovic, relegating Federer to third at home for the first time in recent memory.

Murray begins his first trip to Basel since 2005 with a first-round contest against Dutchman Robin Haase while Djokovic will test the back injury which has kept him off court for well over a month when he starts against Belgian Xavier Malisse.

Others in the Top 10 fill out the field, with Tomas Berdych and American Mardy Fish also entered. Number 14 Andy Roddick, a semi-finalist in 2003 and 2010, will also be in contention, playing again a decade after his first entry.

The Basel week will be another chance to determine the last three spots in the eight-man ATP World Tour Finals field, to be played November 20-27 in London.

Chasing a spot is provisional tenth-placed Serb Janko Tipsarovic, the sixth seed, who opens against German Florian Mayer.



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Cardinals' Series-winning ways rub off on Rams



Members of the World Champion St. Louis Cardinals pose for a photo prior to the game between the New Orleans Saints

ST. LOUIS (AFP) - The World Series champion Cardinals remained the toast of St. Louis on Sunday, and their winning ways appeared to rub off on the NFL's St. Louis Rams.

Pitcher Chris Carpenter and manager Tony La Russa were among about a dozen of the Cardinals who turned out as the Rams hosted the New Orleans Saints, St. Louis' baseball heroes acknowledging a standing ovation when they were introduced early in the

first quarter.

"To be on the sideline is definitely an adrenaline rush and we're not even playing today," pitcher Edwin Jackson said.

The Cardinals' presence apparently inspired not only the fans but also the Rams.

The Rams hadn't won a game this season but led 17-0 at halftime en route to a 31-21 upset of the favored Saints.

Carpenter wore the jersey of star running back Steven

Jackson when he went to midfield for the coin toss.

Carpenter was credited with the win against the Texas Rangers in the decisive game seven of the World Series on Friday.

After the hurler's tribute, Steven Jackson went out and scored twice in his first 100-yard game in three seasons.

"This is my first time in this stadium. It's awesome to be part of this," Cards catcher Yadier Molina said.

Kvitova confirms elite credentials

ISTANBUL (AFP) - Petra Kvitova, the 21-year-old Czech left-hander who caused a sensation by winning Wimbledon as an outsider four months ago, proved she is now a fully fledged member of the sport's elite by winning the WTA (year-end) Championships.

Kvitova did that with a 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 win over Victoria Azarenka, the fourth-seeded Belarussian, which earned her the second most important title of her career and further enhanced her growing

reputation.

It also gained her a career-high year-end ranking of world number two - a tremendous surge from the 30th place at which she began 2011.

Asked whether she aimed to be world number one next year, she said: "I am not focused on that."

"I will be world number two and next season will be different. I may be the favourite all the time, and we will have to see. It will be strange for me. It will be something new again."

McIlroy takes \$2million Shanghai Masters title



SHANGHAI (AFP) - Rory McIlroy enjoyed a \$2 million pay day on Sunday after a nerve-shredding play off with American Anthony Kim who came within a whisker of claiming the lavish purse at the Lake Malaren Shanghai Masters.

The pair duelled in a tense sudden death on the tricky par

four 18th hole for the biggest cash prize in golf.

Nothing separated the players at the last, with their approach shots landing four feet apart in the bunker under the green amid disbelieving gasps from the grandstand.

But Kim gifted McIlroy the most lucrative cheque of his career when he missed a crucial three foot putt after a precision bunker shot.

McIlroy, the world number three, tapped in from two feet to complete a pleasing first week's work and take home a bulging wage packet.

"I was under pressure on the back nine and one shot behind, so to be able come back and win gives me a lot of satisfaction," the 22-year-old added.

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